



# State of Tennessee

## PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 897

HOUSE BILL NO. 2865

By Representatives Baum, Stevens, Davis, Sherrell, Moon, Littleton, Alexander, Vital

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 2677

By Senators White, Walley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 8; Title 16; Title 39 and Title 40, relative to veterans treatment court programs.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 16-6-105, is amended by deleting the section and substituting instead the following:

(a) A court exercising criminal jurisdiction within this state or an existing veterans treatment court program created by a court exercising criminal jurisdiction may apply for veterans treatment court program grant funds established in § 16-22-109(e)(4). If the department of mental health and substance abuse services determines that the court is able to administer a veterans treatment court program, then the department shall award the court grant money to fund a veterans treatment court program.

(b) If the department determines that a court is able to administer a veterans treatment court program and grant money is awarded pursuant to subsection (a), then the county in which the court operates shall provide a courtroom and a judge for the veterans treatment court program and all necessary supplies and equipment for the maintenance of the court, and shall defray the expenses thereof from the general fund of the county.


(c) Funds allocated pursuant to this section may be used to:

- (1) Fund a full-time or part-time program director position;
- (2) Fund veterans treatment court program staff whose job duties are directly related to program operations;
- (3) Fund substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment, and other direct services for veterans treatment court program participants;
- (4) Fund drug testing;
- (5) Fund program costs directly related to program operations; and
- (6) Implement or continue veterans treatment court program operations.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: April 11, 2024



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CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



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RANDY MCNALLY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May 2024



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BILL LEE, GOVERNOR